

**Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.
News in Brief.
August/September 2013**

**Shivers September is already here!!! Blimy.
Don't forget, I still want more !!! Articles that is.**

From the Editor.

OK as we fly through the second half of this year, I am reminded of that age old proverb. "many hands make light work" and there is another one that is a counter to this. "Too many cooks spoil the broth" I am thinking we should mix this up a bit "Too many cooks make light work" I am encouraged that we have some members of the club who have stepped up and volunteered to take on some tasks involving club activities and projects, and that is great, so I do encourage all members to give due consideration as to what you can do to keep things moving along. there will be reference to various activities made in this newsletter to make your considerations easy.

Now I guess I had better get on with the rest of the newsletter. now who was the silly sod that started this off...

Club meetings.

Saturday August 3rd saw the double bungler, the general meeting and the Annual meeting. We had 11 members and 6 visitors enjoy the day with great morning tea and BBQ lunch mixed in with the fellowship. the new executive is.

President Rick Lloyd Jones VK4FRLJ. Vice President Richard Lammas VK4NRL. Secretary/Treasurer, Neil Holmes VK4NF.. Blimy, terrors for punishment. Repeater Coordinator. Richard Lammas VK4NRL. Wicen officer, Joe Manfred VK4FMAN. Publicity officer Andy Kellner VK4TH. What are you like at newsletters Andy ??

We did resolve to raise the membership fees to \$30 full membership, \$25 concession. This represents a 17% Discount for concession card holders. two main reasons for the increase.

1. the expenses incurred with the running of the club has, like everything else, increased considerably.

2. the membership fees have remained the same for several years, also this brings the membership fees in line with other clubs.

PLEASE NOTE> the membership renewal window has now closed, membership application forms etc are available, please contact the Secretary.

We also discussed fundraising for the club, and we all need to consider whether we rally the troops and be involved in fund raising ventures or is it better that, (as a few members already do) we all make a financial donation to assist with the costs of providing the facilities that the club provides. Your feedback on this will be most welcome.

Annual expenses for the bare bones running of the club This year will come in at around \$1,200, an increase of about 20% on last year.

just for licences, Insurances, WIA, Office of fair trading, stationery etc.

This does not include Maintenance and upgrades to club assets, Repeaters, links, IRLP/echolink nodes, etc. So we do need to do some hard thinking on this.

We are currently looking at doing a sausage sizzle outside Super Cheap Auto here in Dalby.

Some are still talking about the May meeting in Nanango, so we did discuss this at the meeting and it was resolved that we hold two meetings a year (May & November) away from Dalby, and we hold the February and August meetings in Dalby. The November 2013 general meeting will be held on the 2nd of November at either Kingaroy or Nanango, the venue is still to be advised. We will discuss the venue for the May 2014 meeting at this coming meeting.



some of the crew at the annual meeting with Theo VK4ESK chairing the meeting for the election of the new President & vice President.



The boys busy cooking lunch



The crew enjoying the BBQ lunch.

Club Web Site.

I trust that everyone has found the club's new website, if you haven't, log on and check this out, All comments and suggestions are most welcome, please use the "contact us" facility available on the site. A gallery is also available if you would like to place some pictures on this page, please send to vk4bad@wia.org.au. The web address is www.bunyaamcom.org.au or simply Google the club name and hey presto,,, you will find it. Another suggestion that was raised was to have a member profile page where members could upload their details, I guess a bit like Face book. Feedback wanted with this as well.

Foundation Licence Course & exams.

The next date set aside this year is September 21st & 22nd. At this stage we have one possible candidate Jim Dudgeon, If you know of anyone else who may be interested, please let us know. (STOP PRESS. No Candidates in the wings at this stage, so this round has been cancelled) Foundation licence manuals, (Your entry into Amateur Radio) are available if required. give me (Neil VK4NF) a call or Email and I will organize that. Just \$20 to buy or \$20 to hire with \$15 refundable on return of the book in good order.

Don't forget that exams for upgrades to Standard and advanced licences can be arranged.

**what about a couple more exam questions. how did you go with last months
Answers at the end of the rag. if you cheat I will come around and get you.**

1. A transmitter has an output power of 10watts. it is connected to a coax feed line that has 3DB of loss, the other end of the feed line is connected to an antenna that has 6db of gain. What ERP, (Effective Radiated Power) will this set up achieve.

A. 50watts. B. 15watts. C. 10watts. D. 20watts.

2. Two 300ohm resistors are connected in parallel, what is the total resistance achieved.

A. 600ohms. B. 30ohms. C. 150ohms D. 60ohms.

oooOOOooo

**You know I used to chase skirts all over the world, until I arrived in Scotland
Blimy was that interesting.**

VK4 to be better represented in AR Magazine

Well Michael the August issue of AR mag didn't disappoint, nearly 3pages of info from Queensland clubs, very good. and of course July had a great article on our club.

it was suggested that I publish this in this newsletter, but that would be copyright so I direct your attention to page 41 in the July edition. If you have info to contribute.

Contact Michael VK4QS PH 4122 2927 Email [mikevk4qs@gmail.com]
No 84 Banana street Granville, 4650 Queensland



Young Noely

**Noel's Nutty Campers
VK4NL**

Ph. 0413 958 216

Email. vk4nl@iprimus.com.au



Noel's Van

CALENDAR FOR NOEL'S NUTTY CAMPERS AND INTER CLUB CAMPING EVENTS - 2013/14

OCTOBER 2013 25th, 26th, 27th

**Rainbow Waters Carlo Point – Dog friendly - Yes
<http://www.rainbowwaters.com.au/>**

Well I am going, how about you ??? ED.

May 2nd 3rd 4th 2014.

Clairview camp 150kms south of Mackay.

please contact Noel VK4NL for more info on this event, you might have to be quick as it looks like it may nearly be booked out.

March 28th 29th 30th 2014.

Kirkleigh Somerset Dam camp.

This camp is organised and run by the Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc, so please contact the club to find out all the nitty gritty details.

this is the 10th anniversary of our April camps and we recon that this weekend is close enough to April, given that all weekends in April 2014 are either long weekends or school holidays. So don't miss this one,

Can you please mark off these dates in your dairies; further information will be sent as each event gets closer. Regards NN (Nutty Noel) & NN (Notorious Neil)

**He said to his wife. ... What have you been doing with all the grocery money I gave you?
She said to him Turn sideways and look in the mirror!**

Jota 2013.

this will happen on the weekend of October 19th 20th and it is looking like it may happen out at Lake Broadwater with the Dalby/Yumborra scout group, any members who would be in a position to assist with this event would be most helpful. for more info, and to register your interest, please contact Morris VK4FMLV PH 0417 004 952, or contact the club via the normal means. Remember we need to encourage our youth..

Club Netts

Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.

Each Sunday evening at 1930hrs we run an 80mt nett on 3.650 MHz.

If you have some time to spare on a Sunday evening, please call in and say hi, and join in the different topics of discussion that arise from time to time. It is great to have our regulars on this nett, but there are quite a few missing, So, the question. Where are you all.???

Money will buy a fine dog . . .but only kindness will make him wag his tail.

IRLP & ECHOLINK Nodes.

Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc

irlp node 6983 operating on VK4RET 2mt repeater, The echo link node is running on the node on the side, The WIA news is been broadcast on Sunday mornings and evenings. Auto call backs are coming, still have a little bit of work to do on setting this up. Please stay off reflectors until we sort out keeping the repeater ident off the internet. This Sunday morning the repeater VK4RET will be connected to the Toowoomba repeater at 9.55 am to allow club members to join the Toowoomba 2 mt nett, please join in the nett. To disconnect from the net, DTMF 73. this is if the repeater is needed for local traffic. Thanks to all. Rick Lammas VK4NRL.

Please don't forget to use your call sign when using repeaters, IRLP etc. at the start and end of all transmissions and every 10 minutes. as per the regulations. Many thanks.

If you like to use the IRLP & ECHOLINK nodes, this is another area that you might consider making a donation towards the running costs of this facility, the estimated costs of running the equipment to have this asset available 24 hrs a day is around the 5 cents per hour, this varies with the usage. I will let you do the maths on this. Thanks in anticipation.

oooOOOooo

After 60, if you don't wake up aching in every joint . you're probably dead.
Or very fortunate ED.

This is the first of a group of articles that deal with.

The Efficiencies, or rather the inefficiencies of Lead acid batteries and solar panels.

Firstly we will take a look at your average lead acid battery, mainly looking at the deep cycle and AGM batteries. Now many of you will think that this information is a bit woopy doo as you will have a good knowledge of same, but remember that we do have quite a number of new recruits entering the hobby who will find this info helpful.

Your basic car battery is basically designed to do just that, provide a quick discharge to operate the starter motor, then the alternator restores that charge very quickly to return the battery to full charge. These batteries will not give prolonged life when used in deep cycle applications as they are not designed for this purpose. so we need to use the correct battery for the application. DEEP CYCLE batteries, and more recently AGM (Absorbent Glass Mat) batteries. are designed for this purpose. I won't go into the construction details of the batteries, as this will take up heaps of typing.

Capacity. Batteries usually are rated in Amp Hours (AMH or AH) to determine what they will do and what size you need for your application. for this exercise, we will deal with your common 100ah battery. Now sadly, batteries are somewhat over rated, in other words you will not get a full 100 usable ahs from one of these batteries, this figure is greatly determined by the load you require. So if you have a load of 1 amp (in other words this is commonly referred to as the 100hour rate of discharge) you will not actually achieve 1 amp for 100hours, if the battery is in good condition, you will probably expect about 80hours at this rate before the battery voltage drops to around the 11.8 volts. (you can take the batteries down to around the 10.5 volts, but some equipment will not like running on such a low voltage,) now if you place a 10amp load on the same battery, you will certainly not achieve 8 hours before 11.8volts. if you are lucky you might get 6.5hours, but that might even be a bit ambitious.

So as you can see, the higher the current draw, the less efficient the battery becomes, When doing your sums, working out the battery size, the best way is to work on 50%, IE. 50 ahs from a 100AH battery, then if you are using lighter loads, you will have a bonus of extra power for your use. Batteries will give you good service for many years provided you look after them. what they don't like is. 1. being overcharged. 2. being charged too quickly. 3. being discharged too much. 4. being left in a discharged state.. We will talk about charging your batteries next edition.

Neil VK4NF



The VK4NF Power & pumping station. 375ah battery capacity, that relates to about 200ah usable capacity. Thanks Wayne, the Batteries are working well. note the 12 volt water pump bottom left, and 240volt back up pump behind it.



Note the red inverter on the batteries, it generates noise for about a 4 mt radius of the station, The silver one sitting up on the shelf generates noise all around the property. they both work very well otherwise. Yes I know Albert, the red one is yours as is the charger beside it. they both work very well.

Darling Downs Radio Club nets.

The club conducts two nets on a committed and regular basis.

1. A 2m net is conducted each Sunday morning at 10am after the news broadcast . At 9:00am the WIA News re-broadcast following which a call-back which the node automatically records and sends to the WIA. Then, at 10:00am, Please note: The IRLP and Echolink facilities will be shut down from 9:00am to the end of the WIA news and call-back, after which the IRLP and Echolink will be enabled. However, if you wish to join the 10:00am net, you can call in on IRLP or EchoLink approximately 8 minutes before 10:00am, and join us on the net.

2. Each Saturday evening there is an 80m net on 3.587 MHz (+ or – QRM) commencing at 7:30pm and is hosted by Theo Moller (VK4ESK). This net is also well attended by both local and interstate amateurs. The Club has two repeaters, VHF and UHF, co-sited, and both employing the call sign vk4rdd. The 2m repeater transmits on 146.750 MHz with standard 600 kHz offset. IRLP is available on the 2m repeater. Node number is 6958. Connect: Use DTMF for the node number you require. Disconnect: Use DTMF “73” EchoLink is also available on the 2m repeater. Node number is 69580 Connect: Use DTMF “star” and then the node number required. Disconnect: Use DTMF “73” only. [NB: No “star” required

Membership fees fall due with the AGM, which is held in July.

Payment is expected within two months of that date. Full Membership - \$30.00 Pensioner /concession \$25.00

An Application Form is only required for New Members, or for Members rejoining after a break.

Payment by Direct **Credit** is now available:

Bank: Heritage Bank.

Branch: Toowoomba Plaza, 878 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350

Account Name: Darling Downs Radio Club, Inc. BSB: 638-070 Account No: 279994

Please make sure your name is included in the applicable Field (Comments/Remarks etc.)

so the Treasurer knows where the money came from.

The Committee for the 2013 - 2014 period is:

President - David Curry - VK4SP Vice-President - Bill Main - VK4ZD

Treasurer - Kevin Crandell - VK4VKX Secretary - Terry Walters - VK4KTP

Steering Committee: Dougal Johnston - VK4EKA George Ferguson - VK4GSF

Rod Webb - VK4ZJ Wayne Richter - VK4ARW

Repeater Committee: John Mondientz Terry Walters Rod Webb Wayne Richter

PO Box 3257 Village Fair Toowoomba 4350

Secretary: Terry Walters vk4KTP.

Web page: <http://www.ddrci.webs.com>

The club meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the Club Room, which is located in the new SES headquarters, old TAFE building, Hume Street, Toowoomba.

All meetings start at 7:00pm sharp.

The second Monday is always a Management committee meeting, and is held each month.

The fourth Monday is usually a social and technical evening, with 2 exceptions:

1. In July this Monday is the Annual General Meeting of the club
2. In December there is no meeting on the fourth Monday.

A good way to support any of your radio clubs and its assets activities and projects is to become a financial member. To find out how to do this, and obtain an application form. Please make contact with your club via any of the avenues below.

Some folks do not wish to be members of a club, and that is quite understandable. Given this, the best way to support you club is to make a financial donation. many thanks..

*When I get old I am going to move in with my kids.
Hog the computer. pay no bills. eat all the food.
Trash the house. and when I get asked to clean.
Chuck a tantie and say my leg is killing me.*

Bunya Mts & District AmCom Inc.

Meets on the first Saturday in February, May, August & November.

@ the MYCNC complex in Dalby, or at other venues decided @ previous meetings.

Postal address 15 Bunya Street Dalby Old 4405.

Postal Address **President:-----Rick Lloyd Jones VK4FRLJ Ph 0457 349 920**
15 Bunya Street **Vice President:-----Richard Lammas VK4NRL Ph 0429 726 833**
Dalby 4405 **Secretary: ----- Neil Holmes VK4NF Ph 07 4662 4950**
Email. **Treasurer: -----Neil Holmes VK4NF Ph 07 4662 ---**
vk4bad@wia.org.au **Repeaters; - VHF 146.675. UHF 438.7 Co sited on the Bunya Mts.**
VHF 147/850mhz. UHF CH 7 CB Repeaters. New location to be revealed soon

Sunfest 2013.

Doors open 0900hrs Saturday the 14th September

Woombye School of Arts Blackall Street, Woombye (UBD Map 66 F12)

The Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club's annual HAMFEST is an event for Amateur Radio Operators, CB Radio users, Radio and Electronics enthusiasts, Computer bits and pieces.

New gear as well as pre-loved bits of everything on sale.

Reservations for table space Contact: Warwick Marshallsea VK4NW: mobile 0403 071 797

Email: sunfest@vk4wis.org PO Box 7551 Sippy Downs Qld

Tables \$20 each (includes 2 persons) Entry fee \$5. Sellers access 0700hrs

Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club.

Contact: Secretary Warwick Marshallsea VK4NW SCARC, PO Box 7551, Sippy Downs, Qld. 4556. Email warwickmar@hotmail.com

You may also contact Noel, VK4NL, who is the voice of SCARC to us on the Darling Downs, on vk4lnnoel@gmail.com

80m net: Each Thursday evening, 7:30pm 3.660 MHz call-sign VK4WIS.

2m net: Each Sunday evening, 7:30pm via VK4WIS on 144.300 MHz, USB.

6m net: Each Friday evening, 7:30pm at VK4RSN on 53.700 MHz.

10m net: Each Wednesday evening, 7:30pm 28.70 MHz.

EchoLink Internet station is VK4WIS-R, and Node number is 306184. Available on 146.850 MHz and 146.825 MHz (linked

) IRLP Available o 438.075 MHz, with Node number 6564.

**Paddy found out that his wife was having an affair, so he decides to kill her and himself
So he gets the gun and points it at his head and says to her.
don't get too excited, your next.**

For sale, give away or wanted.

Wanted

Preloved cordless telephones with a working DTMF tone generator/
this is for a proposed club project, so we may need a few of these.
Please contact the club for more information.

For sale.

For Sale: Honda EU10 generator done about 25hrs good nic. This is not a cheap Chinese unit like the many that are available these days, it is a genuine Honda \$650 ph Neil VK4NF 0488 687 649

"Various Frequency / Police Scanners for sale. Radio Shack Pro 405 / Uniden BC 350 A and others. Starting at \$ 75. Please contact Andy (VK4TH) : hawat1@yahoo.com"

Answers to the exam questions. Q1. (D) Q2 (C)

If you would like to add some copy for publication in the next issue of *News In Brief*,
please Email same to – holmzie@bigpond.com

Proverbs Chapter 11 Verse 24.

One person gives freely, yet gains even more.

Another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

This doesn't necessarily refer to lack of money type poverty!!! ED.

Until next time, enjoy your hobby and stay safe. Neil Holmes VK4NF.---- Editor.